

salmon rather diminish than increase during their sojourn in rivers, and he illustrates this and other points of his subject by numerous experiments and observations.

2. "On the Geology of Roxburghshire." Part II. By David Milne, Esq.,—the conclusion of a very interesting report.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

### MAIANTHEMUM BIFOLIUM.

THIS very pretty plant, recorded as British in the 'Annals' for January, is a rediscovery and not altogether new to the British flora. It has been already figured and recorded as English, but a long while ago. In Gerarde's 'Herbal,' 2nd book, 90th chap. p. 409, will be found a very characteristic portrait of it under the name of *Monophyllum* or *One blade*. He classes it with his *Wintergreenes* (*Pyrolæ*), and says "it growth in Lancashire in Dingley Wood, six miles from Preston in Auldirnesse, and in Harwood near Blackburne likewise." "It floureth in May, and the fruit is ripe in September." Let the Lancashire botanists look out for it next spring. It is strange that Gerarde's notice of it should have escaped our older botanists; and stranger still, that in the Linnæan Society's copy it is marked "*Convallaria bifolia*" in Sir James E. Smith's own handwriting, apparently without his having noticed the localities given for it below. In the south of Norway it is very abundant in pine-woods on a gneiss soil\*, and should be looked for in similar situations in the north of Britain.—EDWARD FORBES.

### DR. PATRICK NEILL.

There are few whose claims to public commendation are stronger than those of Dr. Neill, who has been one of the most useful, but least ostentatious, of Edinburgh's citizens. At a late meeting of the Caledonian Horticultural Society, Lord Murray proposed that the members should at their first meeting in their new hall express their sense of the obligations under which the Society lay to that gentleman for his distinguished and laborious services; which was carried by acclamation. In addition to this, it is proposed to request Dr. Neill to sit for a bust, to be executed by John Steell, Esq., R.S.A. This mark of approbation, however, should not be confined to the members: the Doctor's services as a citizen of Edinburgh, and the interest he has taken in every public and benevolent undertaking, entitle him to a more general compliment.

### TO ZOOLOGICAL AND BOTANICAL COLLECTORS.

Mr. William Gardener, Dundee, will prepare during the ensuing summer "Botanical Parcels," each of which "will contain 500 species of Scottish Phænogamic and Cryptogamic plants, including as many of the rarer species as possible, carefully selected, dried, named, and localised; and the charge, inclusive of printed labels, paper and

\* It is also a common plant in the neighbourhood of Berlin, where it occurs in profusion in the Park on a sandy soil.—W. FRANCIS.

packing, will be 2*l*." Subscribers are requested to give in their names as early as possible; and we may add, that the good condition and drying of former parcels of plants are borne testimony to by Professor Balfour of Glasgow, J. G. Children, Esq., E. Doubleday, Esq., &c.

THE COLLECTION OF BIRD-SKINS BELONGING TO THE LATE  
DR. WILLIAM HOOKER.

This collection of bird-skins is to be disposed of; it consists of from between 800 and 1000 specimens from various countries; but it is chiefly valuable for the number of *Peruvian* and *Chilian* species which served Mr. Swainson for his descriptions in his "Two centenaries and a quarter" and other works, and which would be valuable for consultation in a public museum. Information regarding them will be given by G. Wails, Esq., Newcastle.

PROFESSOR TRAIL'S MINERALOGICAL COLLECTION.

The Mineralogical and Geological collection of Professor Trail of Edinburgh is to be disposed of, containing above 5000 specimens. The mineralogical series contains about 3000 of these. The geological series is particularly illustrative of Scotland, Spain, Brazil, Greenland and the Arctic regions, and among the fossil remains are a set of the fossil fishes of the Orkney Islands, named by Agassiz.

METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS FOR DECEMBER 1842.

*Chiswick*.—Dec. 1. Slight rain: overcast. 2. Densely clouded: clear and fine. 3. Foggy. 4. Foggy: overcast. 5. Light haze: very fine: foggy. 6—9. Foggy. 10. Overcast. 11. Foggy: clear and fine. 12. Rain: overcast and mild. 13. Very fine: overcast. 14, 15. Exceedingly fine. 16. Very fine: densely overcast. 17. Very fine. 18, 19. Foggy: clear and fine. 20, 21. Hazy. 22. Very fine. 23. Rain. 24. Very fine. 25. Clear: overcast and fine: stormy at night. 26. Cloudy and windy. 27. Rain: cloudy and damp: frosty. 28. Frosty: clear and fine. 29. Densely clouded. 30. Cloudy and very mild. 31. Very fine.—Mean temperature of the month  $4^{\circ}12$  above the average.

*Boston*.—Dec. 1—3. Cloudy. 4. Foggy. 5. Cloudy. 6. Foggy. 7. Cloudy. 8, 9. Foggy. 10. Foggy: rain early A.M. 11. Cloudy. 12. Rain: rain early A.M. 13. Cloudy. 14, 15. Fine. 16. Cloudy: rain P.M. 17—19. Fine. 20. Cloudy. 21, 22. Fine. 23. Cloudy. 24. Fine. 25. Fine: rain P.M. 26. Windy: rain P.M. 27. Cloudy: rain early A.M. 28. Fine. 29. Windy. 30. Fine. 31. Windy: stormy P.M.

*Sandwick Manse, Orkney*.—Dec. 1. Rain: cloudy. 2. Showers: cloudy. 3. Clear: showers. 4. Cloudy: drizzle. 5, 6. Bright: cloudy. 7. Cloudy. 8. Drizzle. 9. Fog. 10. Fog: cloudy. 11. Cloudy. 12. Rain: cloudy. 13, 14. Cloudy. 15. Bright: cloudy. 16. Bright. 17, 18. Showers. 19. Showers: clear. 20. Showers: cloudy. 21. Cloudy: drizzle. 22. Showers. 23. Showers: snow. 24. Showers. 25. Rain. 26, 27. Hail-showers. 28, 29. Cloudy. 30. Rain: drizzle. 31. Showers: frost.

*Applegarth Manse, Dumfries-shire*.—Dec. 1, 2. Rain and wind. 3. Fine and fair. 4. Rain A.M.: cleared. 5, 6. Rain P.M. 7. Fair and fine. 8. Fair A.M.: drizzly P.M. 9. Fair but cloudy. 10. Drizzly. 11. Fair: overcast P.M. 12. Wet all day. 13. Storm: wind: rain: flood. 14. Rain P.M. 15, 16. Storm: wind: rain P.M. 17. Fair. 18—23. Showers P.M. 24. Hoar-frost A.M. 25. Very wet all day. 26. Very wet A.M. 27. Slight shower: frost P.M. 28. Frost A.M.: rain P.M. 29. Rain, but mild. 30. Rain and high wind. 31. Rain: cleared P.M.

The high temperature of December is remarkable, being nearly  $10^{\circ}$  higher than the mean of the last twenty years, and  $7^{\circ}$  higher than Dec. 1841.

*Meteorological Observations made at the Apartments of the Royal Society, London, by the Assistant Secretary, Mr. Robertson; by Mr. Thompson at the Garden of the Horticultural Society at Chiswick, near London; by Mr. Veall, at Boston; by the Rev. W. Dunbar, at Applegarth Manse, DUMFRIES-SHIRE; and by the Rev. C. Clouston, at Sandwick Manse, ORKNEY.*

Days of Month.	Barometer.						Thermometer.						Wind.						Rain.							
	London: Hoy. Soc. g a.m.	Chiswick.		Boston g a.m.		Dumfries-shire.		Orkney, Sandwick.		London: R.S. Self-reg. g a.m.		Chiswick.		Boston g a.m.		Dumfries-shire.		Orkney, Sandwick.		London: R.S. g a.m.	London: g a.m.	Dumfries-shire.	Boston.	Chiswick.	Orkney, Sandwick.	
		Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.	Max.	Min.							
																										9 a.m.
1842.																										
Dec.																										
1.	30.062	30.017	29.997	29.956	29.962	29.950	29.960	29.938	29.938	49.7	51.0	43.9	54	52	44	39	44	50	44	se.	calm	s.	calm	01	08	46
2.	30.110	30.070	30.028	29.948	29.958	29.973	29.950	29.962	29.962	52.0	55.0	49.8	55	32	55	54	40	46	46	sse.	sw.	calm	01	08	46	
3.	30.250	30.382	30.200	29.963	29.994	30.014	29.973	30.000	29.973	46.7	56.3	45.5	53	42	43.5	51	47	50	46	s.	calm	sw.	01	08	46	
4.	30.454	30.400	30.311	30.003	29.998	30.004	29.976	29.978	29.978	47.7	52.6	44.6	52	39	36.5	49	43	50	49	w.	calm	s.	01	08	47	
5.	30.344	30.297	30.212	29.973	29.983	30.003	29.980	30.012	29.980	44.3	50.6	40.8	40	36	40	45	49	47	44	sw.	calm	s.	01	08	44	
6.	30.264	30.223	30.210	29.973	30.003	30.013	29.995	29.991	29.991	39.5	47.8	37.8	37	31	35	42	47	44	48	w.	calm	s.	01	08	39	
7.	30.350	30.333	30.309	29.966	30.022	30.028	30.011	30.032	30.011	37.3	43.2	36.6	37	31	35	49	45	50	48	w.	calm	s.	01	08	38	
8.	30.442	30.404	30.389	29.966	30.022	30.028	30.011	30.032	30.011	37.3	43.2	36.6	37	31	35	49	45	50	48	w.	calm	s.	01	08	39	
9.	30.424	30.397	30.282	30.000	30.300	30.222	30.300	30.318	30.300	41.7	49.2	37.5	39	38	43	47	43	44	44	w.	calm	ese.	04	08	40	
10.	30.266	30.265	30.185	29.983	30.070	30.000	29.993	29.980	29.980	38.7	45.0	37.5	39	38	43	46	43	44	44	w.	calm	ese.	04	08	38	
11.	30.026	30.017	29.861	29.966	29.822	29.961	29.993	29.980	29.980	38.7	45.0	37.5	39	38	43	46	43	44	44	w.	calm	ese.	04	08	38	
12.	29.820	29.942	29.802	29.934	29.938	29.938	29.938	29.938	29.938	50.3	51.5	38.8	43	50	47	53	41	46	49	se.	calm	ese.	01	08	43	
13.	30.076	30.017	29.909	29.944	29.958	29.960	29.948	29.958	29.958	51.6	50.5	38.8	41	42	44	55	50	48	48	se.	calm	s.	01	08	43	
14.	30.144	30.088	30.073	29.956	29.971	29.972	29.974	29.968	29.974	48.8	50.2	46.2	56	38	45	55	48	48	48	s.	calm	e	06	48	46	
15.	30.164	30.106	30.091	29.955	29.971	29.970	29.949	29.967	29.967	48.3	55.0	46.8	56	38	45	56	51	54	50	s.	calm	e	06	48	46	
16.	30.000	30.088	29.952	29.950	29.972	29.951	29.976	29.943	29.943	50.0	54.6	47.7	55	48	48	55	48	48	48	s.	calm	s.	06	48	48	
17.	30.002	30.170	29.882	29.937	29.950	29.980	29.934	29.945	29.945	50.5	55.6	50.2	51	31	49	50	40	43	44	sw.	calm	sw.	06	48	48	
18.	30.314	30.402	30.281	29.975	29.990	30.100	29.973	29.992	29.992	39.4	52.6	39.3	47	35	40.5	47	40	43	42	sw.	calm	sw.	06	48	48	
19.	30.518	30.485	30.448	29.999	30.120	30.010	29.973	29.959	29.959	39.3	46.0	39.0	45	35	40.5	47	40	43	42	sw.	calm	sw.	06	48	48	
20.	30.430	30.337	30.312	29.987	30.120	30.011	29.973	29.959	29.959	45.7	44.0	39.0	52	46	47	49	44	48	46	w.	calm	sw.	01	08	40	
21.	30.338	30.268	30.234	29.978	30.110	30.000	29.977	29.960	29.960	51.3	51.4	39.0	55	45	52	44	48	48	46	sw.	calm	sw.	01	08	40	
22.	30.194	30.164	29.863	29.959	29.973	29.942	29.936	29.909	29.909	50.2	50.3	49.0	54	45	47	52	45	46	42	sw.	calm	sw.	01	08	46	
23.	29.936	29.614	29.551	29.115	29.247	29.260	29.856	29.903	29.903	47.4	53.8	47.6	46	31	46	48	35	37	34	s.	calm	sw.	07	18	48	
24.	29.616	29.704	29.551	29.115	29.247	29.260	29.856	29.903	29.903	47.4	53.8	47.6	46	31	46	48	35	37	34	s.	calm	sw.	07	18	48	
25.	29.848	29.815	29.659	29.477	29.935	29.815	29.883	29.867	29.867	42.4	35.0	42.4	50	41	34	51	31	31	40	s.	calm	sw.	20	36	37	
26.	29.564	29.518	29.411	29.077	29.896	29.001	29.867	29.866	29.866	48.8	50.3	37.3	51	41	50	46	40	41	41	s. var.	calm	sw.	20	36	37	
27.	29.364	29.661	29.321	28.990	29.112	29.321	29.321	29.321	29.321	43.7	50.6	44.0	47	25	43	47	31	40	40	s. var.	calm	var.	10	31	45	
28.	30.030	30.144	29.929	29.933	29.973	29.975	29.961	29.965	29.965	39.0	47.0	31.7	43	27	35	45	39	41	39	w.	calm	c.	11	36	43	
29.	30.152	30.174	30.112	29.962	29.961	29.883	29.914	29.980	29.980	47.0	48.2	35.4	52	40	48	51	39	40	43	sw.	calm	sw.	11	36	43	
30.	30.222	30.215	30.161	29.964	29.970	29.975	29.944	29.944	29.944	52.3	53.3	47.2	54	45	53	54	44	45	45	s. var.	calm	sw.	06	59	47	
31.	30.144	30.178	30.046	29.945	29.961	29.995	29.945	29.945	29.945	51.3	55.4	50.6	54	30	54	51	50	41	34	s. var.	calm	sw.	02	57	45	
Mean.	30.120	30.130	30.038	29.959	29.755	29.760	29.613	29.657	29.657	45.2	50.5	41.9	49.8	38.35	44.1	50.4	42.2	45.27	44.67	Sum. 0.674	0.76	0.88	2.91	4.44	Mean. 44	